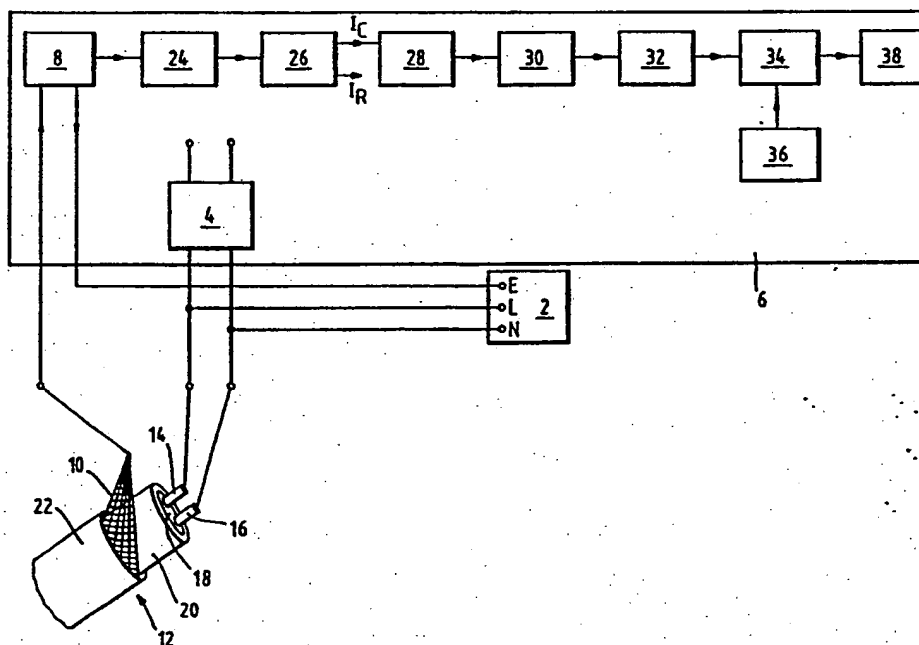


INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁵ : G01R 31/02	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 90/11532 (43) International Publication Date: 4 October 1990 (04.10.90)
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB90/00462</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 28 March 1990 (28.03.90)</p> <p>(30) Priority data: 8906885.2 28 March 1989 (28.03.89) GB</p> <p>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): RAYCHEM LIMITED [GB/GB]; Rolls House, 7 Rolls Building, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1NH (GB).</p> <p>(72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only) : BOTTOMLEY, John [GB/GB]; 7 Ancaster Drive, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 8TR (GB).</p> <p>(74) Agents: JONES, D., Colin et al.; Raychem Limited, IPLD, Faraday Road, Dorcan, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 5HH (GB).</p>	<p>(81) Designated States: AT (European patent), BE (European patent), CA, CH (European patent), DE (European patent), DK, DK (European patent), ES (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), IT (European patent), JP, LU (European patent), NL (European patent), NO, SE (European patent), US.</p> <p>Published With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</p>	

(54) Title: MONITORING ELECTRIC CABLES



(57) Abstract

A self-regulating heater cable (12) is monitored for detection of any damage thereto or discontinuity therein. The monitoring consists in comparing the value of the capacitive component of the earth leakage current following in the cable (12) between its live or neutral conductors (14, 16) and its earthed braid (10) at any one time with a predetermined value that itself is indicative of an intact cable. The value of the capacitive component of the earth leakage current is used to identify the location of any fault along the length of the cable (12).